

CLAIMS

The following are the claims pending in this application, incorporating all amendments made up to and including this paper:

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Claims 1-54 (canceled)

1 Claim 55 (currently amended): A dip-molded article of a rubber that is substantially pore-free,
2 formed by a process comprising:

3 (a) dipping a forming member in a latex comprising

4 (i) a rubber-forming substance and

5 (ii) a vulcanizing agent,

6 said forming member having an outer surface with a contour complementary to that of
7 said article;

8 (b) withdrawing said forming member from said latex in such a manner as to
9 leave a film of said latex over said outer surface;

10 (c) immersing said forming member with said latex thereon in a chemically inert
11 liquid bath at a temperature and for a period of time sufficient to cause vulcanization of
12 said rubber-forming substance by said vulcanizing agent; and

13 (d) withdrawing said forming member from said liquid bath ~~latex~~ and separating
14 said substantially pore-free article of rubber from said forming member.

1 Claim 56 (currently amended): A dip-molded article in accordance with claim 55 in which said
2 liquid bath of step (c) is a member selected from the group consisting of molten inorganic salts,
3 oils, glycols, liquefied ~~liquefied~~ metals, and brine solutions.

1 Claim 57 (previously presented): A dip-molded article in accordance with claim 55 in which
2 said liquid bath of step (c) is a member selected from the group consisting of molten inorganic
3 salts, silicone oils, and glycols.

1 Claim 58 (previously presented): A dip-molded article in accordance with claim 55 in which
2 said liquid bath of step (c) is a member selected from the group consisting of molten inorganic
3 salts and mixtures thereof.

1 Claim 59 (previously presented): A dip-molded article in accordance with claim 58 in which
2 said molten inorganic salts are members selected from the group consisting of nitrates, nitrites,
3 carbonates, sulfates, phosphates, and halides of potassium, sodium and lithium.

1 Claim 60 (previously presented): A dip-molded article in accordance with claim 55 in which
2 said temperature of step (c) is from about 100°C to about 350°C.

1 Claim 61 (previously presented): A dip-molded article in accordance with claim 55 in which
2 said vulcanizing agent is a member selected from the group consisting of organic peroxides,
3 sulfur-containing compounds, selenium-containing compounds, and tellurium-containing
4 compounds.

1 Claim 62 (currently amended): A dip-molded article in accordance with claim 55 in which said
2 vulcanizing agent is a member selected from the group consisting of diacyl peroxides,
3 peroxyketals,[[,]] dialkyl peroxides, mercaptothiazoles, thiuram sulfides, thiuram disulfides,
4 guanidines, zinc dialkyl dithiocarbamates, selenium ~~selenium~~ dialkyl dithiocarbamates, sodium
5 diethyldithiocarbamate, potassium diethyldithiocarbamate, alkyl phenol sulfides, sulfur-
6 containing polymers, and benzothiazyl disulfide.

1 Claim 63 (previously presented): A dip-molded article in accordance with claim 55 in which
2 said vulcanizing agent is an organic peroxide.

1 Claim 64 (previously presented): A dip-molded article in accordance with claim 55 in which
2 said vulcanizing agent is dicumyl peroxide.

1 Claim 65 (previously presented): A dip-molded article in accordance with claim 55 in which
2 said rubber-forming substance of step (a) is not vulcanized prior to step (a).

1 Claim 66 (previously presented): A dip-molded article in accordance with claim 55 in which
2 said rubber-forming substance is partially vulcanized prior to step (a).

1 Claim 67 (previously presented): A dip-molded article in accordance with claim 66 in which
2 said rubber-forming substance is partially vulcanized prior to step (a) by high energy irradiation.